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OF

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ILLUSTRATED.

A SOUVENIR VOLUME

Prepared and published for the information and pleasure of the friends of public education everywhere

BY

HAROLD W. COLE AND THEODORE C. HAILES.

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INTRODUCTION.

WHEN Edward A. Freeman, the eminent English historian, first saw Albany from the heights opposite the city, he pronounced it to be the most picturesque city in the United States. It is no wonder that such an expression came from the distinguished traveller when he saw spread before him the Hudson spanned by graceful and airy bridges, the city rising majestically on its many hills, its spires and towers penciled against the western sky; while surmounting and crowning the whole, the magnificent capitol dominated and completed the picture. This view would impress the most indifferent observer, and reflection would naturally lead him to the opinion that Albany must be a cultivated and progressive city.

The beauty of its exterior, its fine buildings and beautiful parks are strong material evidences of Albany's worth. It is not, however, in such things alone that one seeks for indications of the progressiveness, the enterprise, the culture and the high purpose of an American city. The true index is to be found in the condition of the city's public school system. This book is a witness that Albany has been alive to her duties in this regard, in so far as the printer's and the engraver's arts can portray a school system. It is fair to assume, however, that when a city does its full duty in providing all material appliances of the best order, that the outcome of the schools in the kinds of men and women produced will also be of the best.

The public school system of Albany, like all permanent results in human endeavor, has been a growth rather than a creation, and from its infancy has engaged the attention and the devoted services of prominent and able citizens. The names of G. V. S. Bleecker, John O. Cole, John Simpson, Henry B. Haswell, George W. Carpenter, John G. Treadwell, James L. Babcock, W. C. McHarg, Charles P. Easton, Isaac Edwards, and many others, well known in the annals of Albany, are indissolubly connected with the rise and progress of our public schools.

No attempt will here be made to give a history of the Albany schools. The purpose of this publication is rather to let all know what the system is to-day. The public schools of Albany include one high school, twelve schools of what are called the grammar grades, and which carry pupils through the course that prepares them for entrance into the high school, eight primary schools, a teachers' training school and seventeen kindergartens. The affairs of the schools are administered by a Board of Public Instruction. Their number is seven, their term of office is seven years, and the high character, experience and ability of the men in service assure a grand and progressive administration. The Superintendent of Schools is the executive officer of this Board. He is appointed to serve during good behavior. The present incumbent was appointed in February, 1878, and has thus served nearly sixteen years. A competent Superintendent of Buildings is fully occupied during the entire year in keeping the school houses in good repair.

The school buildings of Albany are, as a whole, excellent. Each one is arranged on the most approved principles of modern school architecture; the comfort and health of the pupils being carefully attended to, while the heating

and means of admitting light and ventilation and the sanitary precautions are practically perfect. It is hardly necessary to say that, as a rule, the exteriors are pleasing to the eye, while nothing has been neglected in the arrangement or the finish of the interiors, which are noble, attractive and cheerful.

The average attendance upon these schools is about eleven thousand; the registration about fourteen thousand, and the seating capacity over thirteen thousand. Two hundred eighty-five teachers are employed, of whom twenty-three are men and two hundred sixty-two women. All of these have had the best of training; their tenure of office is during good behavior, and they are appointed on the score of merit only.

The celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the High School, during the month of November last, aroused more general public interest than any mere local event has for many a day. The fifteen hundred eighty graduates of the school and the more than four thousand who attended, but did not complete their course, united together in congratulation upon the completion of the first quarter-century of Albany's most cherished institution. The reputation of the Albany High School is exceedingly high and its work is worthy of its reputation. The hundreds that fill positions of honor and usefulness in the city itself in professional and mercantile life, as well as in all the other varied occupations of a busy community, and the honor lists of Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Hamilton, Vassar, Wellesley, Smith, and many other like institutions attest the thoroughness and excellence of its work.

A high grade of scholarship and special training are required from all who desire to become teachers in the public schools. To this end, a teachers' training class has been in operation for many years. Instruction in the theory and the

art of teaching is given by competent instructors, and ample practice work in school rooms is made to supplement the direct instruction. A three years' course in kindergartning has just been added to the work of this school, which will render certain the needed supply of kindergartners for the future.

In brief, the public schools of Albany take the child of four years into the kindergarten, carry him through the primary, grammar and high school grades, and send him forth well-prepared for farther study in colleges or professional schools, or well-equipped for a business or an industrial career.

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AN OPEN LETTER TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS.

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Did you ever think of it? To compel children and their teachers to live in unventilated or poorly ventilated school rooms is the daily cause of many deaths and has permanently impaired the health of thousands. A young woman goes into the position of teacher with robust health. If she continues to teach a few years, you will generally find that the roses have fled from her cheek, her feet have become leaden, her steps are languid, and her cheerful disposition is changed to petulance.

WHY?

Because she has been poisoned. For teachers and children to breathe over and over air loaded with foul gases and organic impurities thrown off by lungs and skin, is

JUST AS FILTHY

as if they should drink the water in which they have bathed, and is much

MORE INJURIOUS TO HEALTH.

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Here is a brief list of cities using the Smead System. Or we can give you references to prominent educators.

Albany, N. Y.,	5	School Buildings.	Toledo, O.,	32	School Buildings.
Rochester, N. Y.,	16	" "	Pittsburgh, Pa.,	20	" "
Washington, D. C.,	51	" "	Providence, R. I.,	27	" "
Toronto, Canada,	44	" "			

Number 4 School Building, Albany, N. Y. (see cut on opposite page), **is fitted with the Smead System of Warming, Ventilation and Sanitation.**

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Fourteen School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 700.
Front of Building, 80 feet.
Depth of Building, 110 feet.

Architects, E. Ogden & Son.
Heating by Smead Furnaces.
Ventilation by Smead system, Dry Closets.
Cost of Building, $35,000.

Erected 1892.
Builders :
Mason, James Dodge.
Carpenter, John J. Maas.

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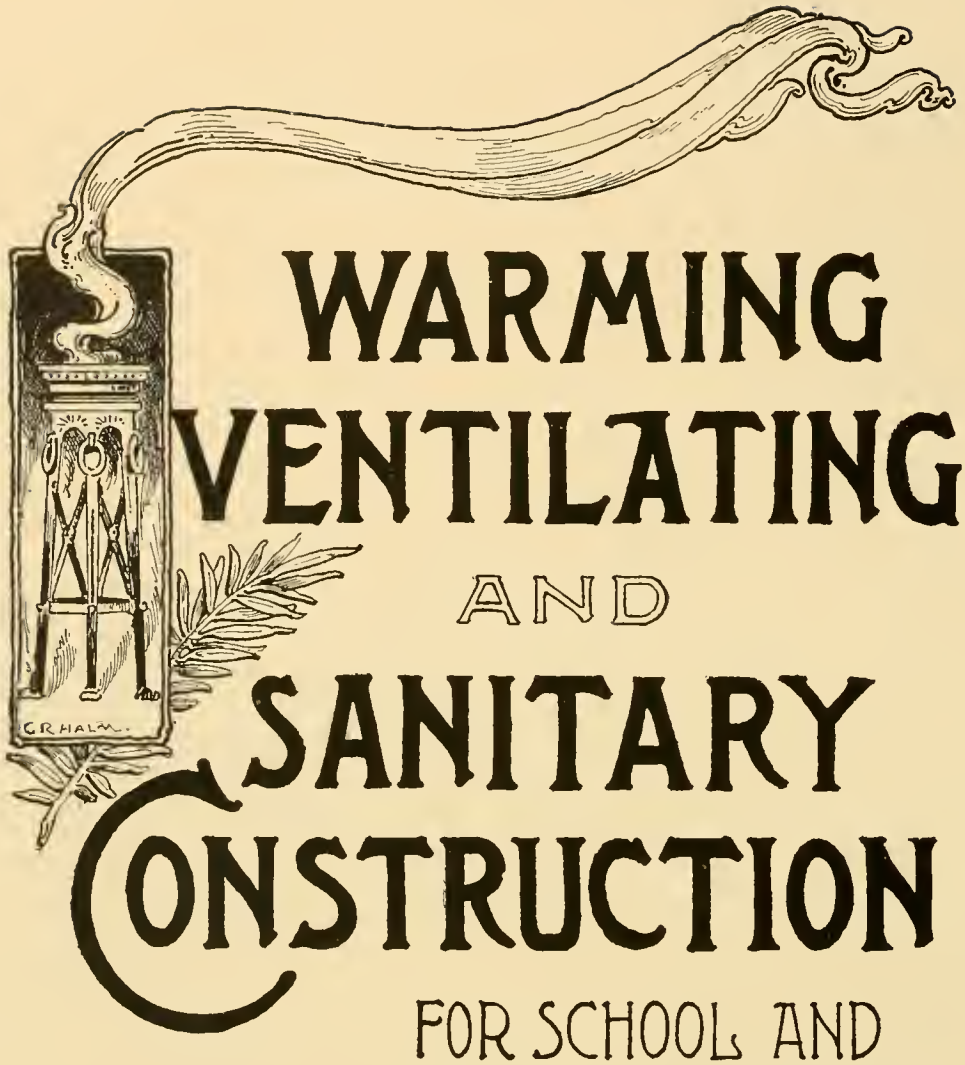
SCHOOL No. 5.

206 NORTH PEARL STREET.

Twelve School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 584.
Front of Building, 56 feet.
Depth of Building, 88 feet.

Architect, Adolph Fleischman.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $27,000

Erected 1883.
Builders:
Mason, Michael Daley.
Carpenter, Peter Blake.



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SCHOOL No. 6.

105 SECOND STREET.

Eighteen School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 872.
Front of Building, 75 feet.
Depth of Building, 166 feet.

Architects, Fuller & Wheeler.
Heating by Fuller & Warren system.
Ventilation, Fuller & Warren system.
Cost of Building, $50,000.

Erected 1893.
Builders:
Mason, Michael Daley.
Carpenter, John J. Maas.

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Assists Teachers with Good Records in Obtaining Situations.

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SCHOOL No. 7.

165 CLINTON AVENUE.

Twelve School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 600.
Front of Building, 46 feet.
Depth of Building, 75 feet.

Architect, Ernest Hoffman.
Heating by Smead Furnaces.
Ventilation by Smead system.
Cost of Building, $30,000.

Erected 1886.
Builders:
Mason, Attilio Pasquini.
Carpenter, David M. Alexander.

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SCHOOL No. 8.

157 MADISON AVENUE.

Ten School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 500.
Front of Building, 57 feet.
Depth of Building, 100 feet.

Architect, Franklin H. Janes.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $25,000.

Erected 1881.
Builders:
Mason—Michael Daley.
Carpenter—Thomas Scott.

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SCHOOL No. 10.

CORNER OF CENTRAL AVENUE AND PERRY STREET.

Eight School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 440.
Front of Building, 80 feet.
Depth of Building, 67 feet.

Architects, Fuller & Wheeler.
Heating by Steam, Indirect Radiation.
Ventilation by Plenum System.
Cost of Building, $25,000.

Erected 1890.
Builders:
Mason—Patrick Murray.
Carpenter—Alexander Simpson.

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SCHOOL No. 11.

409 MADISON AVENUE.

Thirteen School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 640.
Front of Building, 67 feet.
Depth of Building, 87 feet.

Architects, Ogden & Wright.
Heating by Steam, Indirect.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $50,000.

Erected 1873.
Builders:
Mason—Martin White.
Carpenter—James Christie.

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SCHOOL, No. 12.

CORNER OF WASHINGTON AVENUE AND ROBIN STREET.

Nineteen School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 1000.
Front of Building, 68 feet.
Depth of Building, 112 feet.

Architects, Woollett & Ogden.
Heating, Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $75,000.

Erected 1858.
Builders:
Mason—Henry Knight.
Carpenter—Peter Allanson.

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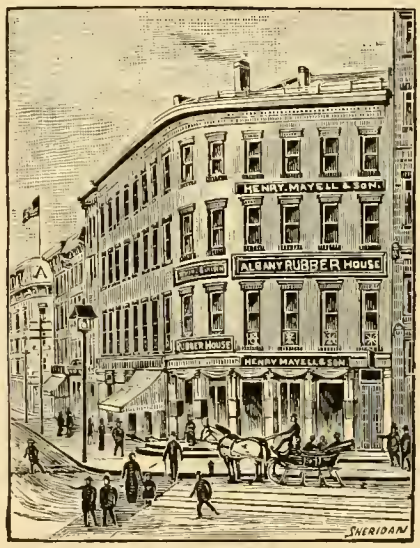

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SCHOOL No. 13.

CORNER OF BROADWAY AND LAWRENCE STREET.

Eight School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 350.
Front of Building, 50 feet.
Depth of Building, 100 feet.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost, $15,000.
Erected 1799.

Originally used for a State Arsenal. Remodeled for Public School, 1859.

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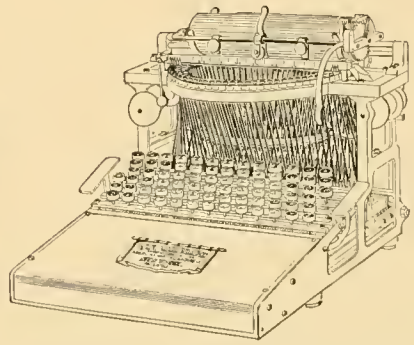

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Permanency of Alignment,
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Eighteen School rooms.
Seating Capacity, 804.
Front of Building, 50 feet.
Depth of Building, 90 feet.

Architect, William Ellis.
Remodeled by A. Fleischman.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by "Exhaust" Plan.

Cost of Building, $35,000.
Erected 1861.
Builders: Masons—Turner Bros.
Carpenter—William Redden.

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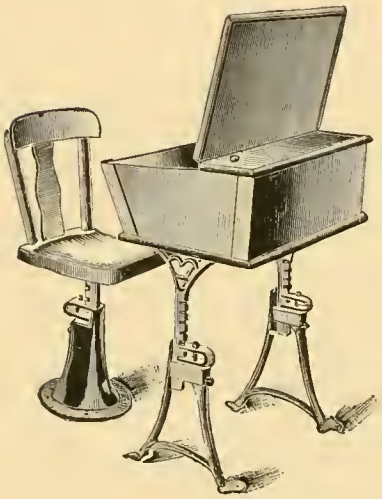

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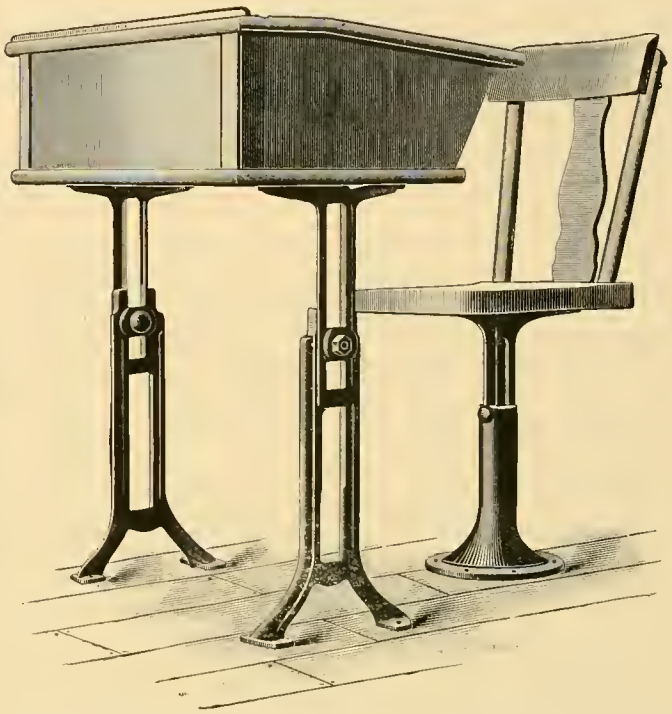

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North Adams,
Boston, 97 Beacon St., Select School,
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Westfield, Public and Normal Schools,
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Franklin, Parochial School,
Salem, Parochial School,
Lynn, " "
Springfield,
Cambridge,
Leominster,
Newburyport,
Salem, Bentley School,
Wellesley, Hunnewell and Cedar St. Schools,
Methun,
Marshfield,
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New Bedford, Mosher School,
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MAINE.

Portland, High School.

RHODE ISLAND.

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CORNER OF HERKIMER AND FRANKLIN STREETS.

Eighteen School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 940.
Front of Building, 90 feet.
Depth of Building, 92 feet.

Architects, Ogden & Wright.
Heating by Steam, Direct Radiation.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $75,000.

Erected 1871.
Builders:
Mason—Martin White.
Carpenters—Clemishire & Bryce.

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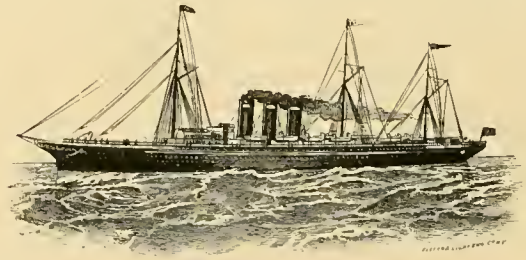

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SCHOOL No. 17.

CORNER OF SECOND AVENUE AND STEPHEN STREET.

Eight School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 440.
Front of Building, 82 feet.
Depth of Building, 45 feet.

Architect, Charles B. Nichols.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $15,000.

Erected 1878.
Builders:
Mason—Joseph Collins.
Carpenters—Blake & Dowling.

OFFICE OF THE

Board of Public Instruction,

HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, EAGLE STREET COR COLUMBIA

Albany, Sept. 23, *1893.*

Thomas Hyde, Esq.,
69 No. Perry St., Albany, N.Y.

Dear Sir,-

In reply to yours of the 6th inst., I would say that your "Patent Extension Closets" are in use in eighteen (18) public schools of this city, including the High School, and that they have been in successful operation during periods varying from a few months to ten (10) years. When these closets are joined with your admirable plan of ventilation, we invariably find a pure and wholesome atmosphere in the lavatories, while their mechanical simplicity and sanitary efficiency are beyond criticism. I cheerfully and heartily recommend the use of these appliances to all Boards of Education.

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Thos. H. Boyer,

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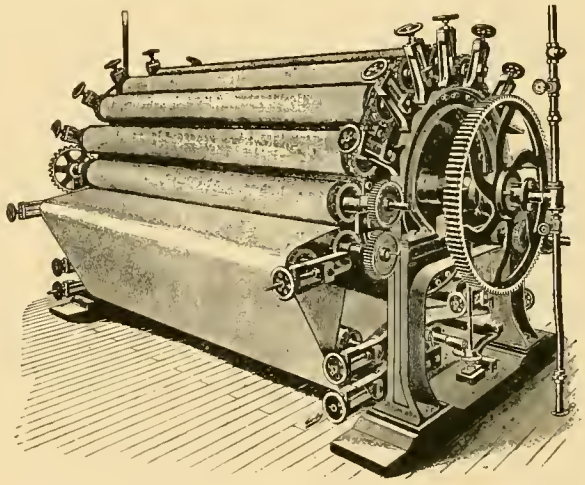

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CORNER OF NORTH PEARL AND NORTH SECOND STREETS.

Twelve School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 668.
Front of Building, 66 feet.
Depth of Building, 84 feet.

Architect, John B. Halcott.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $18,000.

Erected 1880.
Builders:
Mason—James Shattuck.
Carpenter—Peter Blake.

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Sixteen School-rooms.
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Front of Building, 75 feet.
Depth of Building, 64 feet.

Architect, Frederick W. Brown.
Heating by Steam, Indirect Radiation.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $48,000.

Erected 1875.
Builders:
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Eight School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 440.
Front of Building, 63 feet.
Depth of Building, 74 feet.

Architect, Frederick W. Brown.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $24,000.

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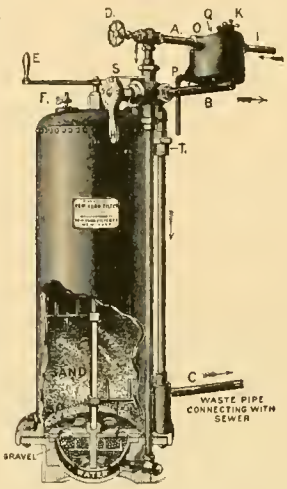

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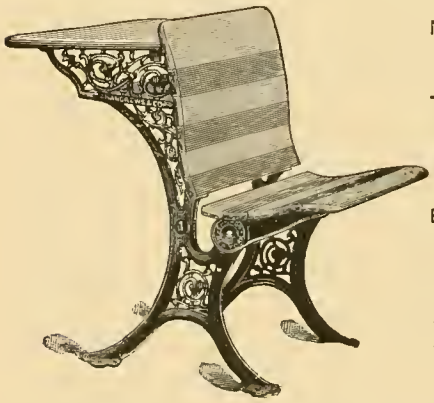

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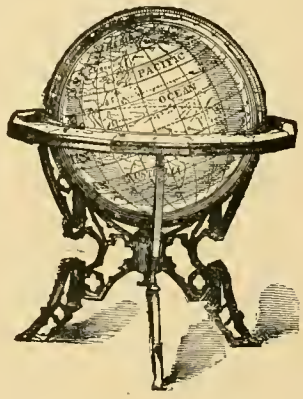

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Seating Capacity, 700.
Front of Building, 70 feet.
Depth of Building, 120 feet.

Architects, Fuller & Wheeler.
Heating by Smead Furnaces.
Ventilation—Smead System.
Cost of Building, $47,000.

Erected 1893.
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Carpenter—James Feeney.

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CORNER OF MORTON AND SWAN STREETS.

Eight School-rooms.
Seating Capacity, 440.
Front of Building, 62 feet.
Depth of Building, 68 feet.

Architect, Walter Dickson.
Heating by Warm Air Furnaces.
Ventilation by Gravity.
Cost of Building, $15,000

Erected 1878.
Builders:
Mason—P. J. Spellacy.
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ℐ or ℓ or ℘ (Expunge.)
⁊ (Reverse.)
(Space.)
⁀ (Bring together.)
tr (Transpose.)
× (Broken letter, space up, or straighten.)
— (Italic.) = (Small caps.) = (Caps.)
√ (Apostrophe.) ⊙ (Period.)
l. c. (Lower case. This is to be used in cases where a whole word or words are in caps or small caps. When only one letter is marked, it is easier to make the letter in the margin thus: i. This applies to all single letters except o and w, for obvious reasons.)
□ (Indent.) ¶ (Paragraph.)
w. f. (Wrong font.)

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[From Albany, N. Y., TIMES-UNION, Sept. 23, 1893.]

THE TIMES-UNION.

WITH A MISSION AND WITHOUT A MUZZLE.

Every few days The Times-Union receives a letter asking it to give more space to politics. Here is a "sample letter" received by this morning's mail:

To the Editor of the Times-Union:

During the approaching campaign I desire to take a "red-hot" democratic paper. I have been taking the TIMES-UNION for the past ten months, but I don't think you give enough attention to politics. Why don't you "pitch in" to the republicans and "holler up" the democrats? L. VAN B.

ANSWER.

The TIMES-UNION aims to be a newspaper with a mission to interest and entertain its readers, and not to weary them. It wears no muzzle and is not a political organ. It gives the news of the day, faithfully recording everything of interest without prejudice. That the public appreciate its course is demonstrated by the fact that it goes into more homes than all the other daily newspapers in Albany combined.

The people love truth and honesty, and hate fraud and deceit, not only in business, but in politics.

If L. Van B. wants to read a paper that wastes valuable space "pitching into the fellows on the other side" he will have to look elsewhere, as we have too much respect for our readers to fancy they care anything for the monotonous utterances of a political organ. They read the facts as published in our columns and like an intelligent jury, form their own political opinions.

The Times-Union is always for the welfare of Albany and its people, and doesn't care a snap for partisan politics, but means to discuss all things fairly and justly. It will speak of men and things as they are; "nothing extenuate, nor aught set down in malice."

JOHN H. FARRELL, Editor and Proprietor.

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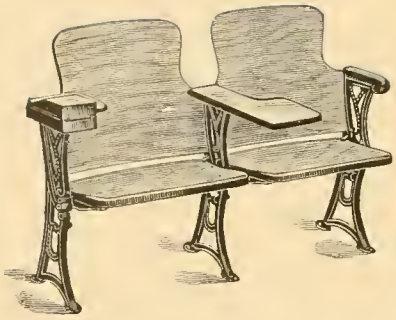

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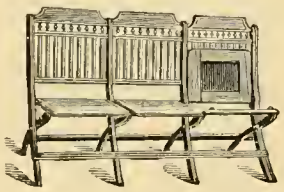

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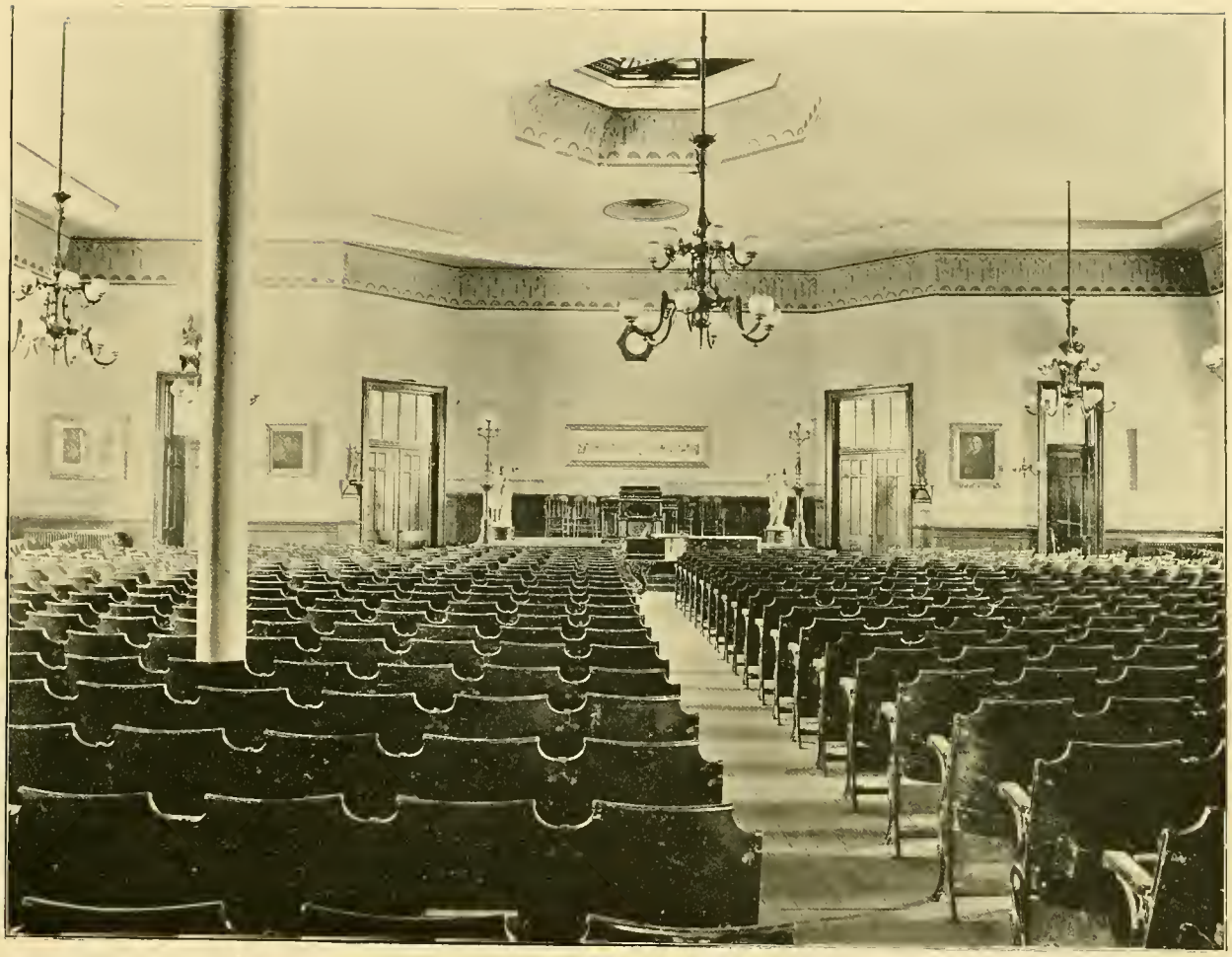

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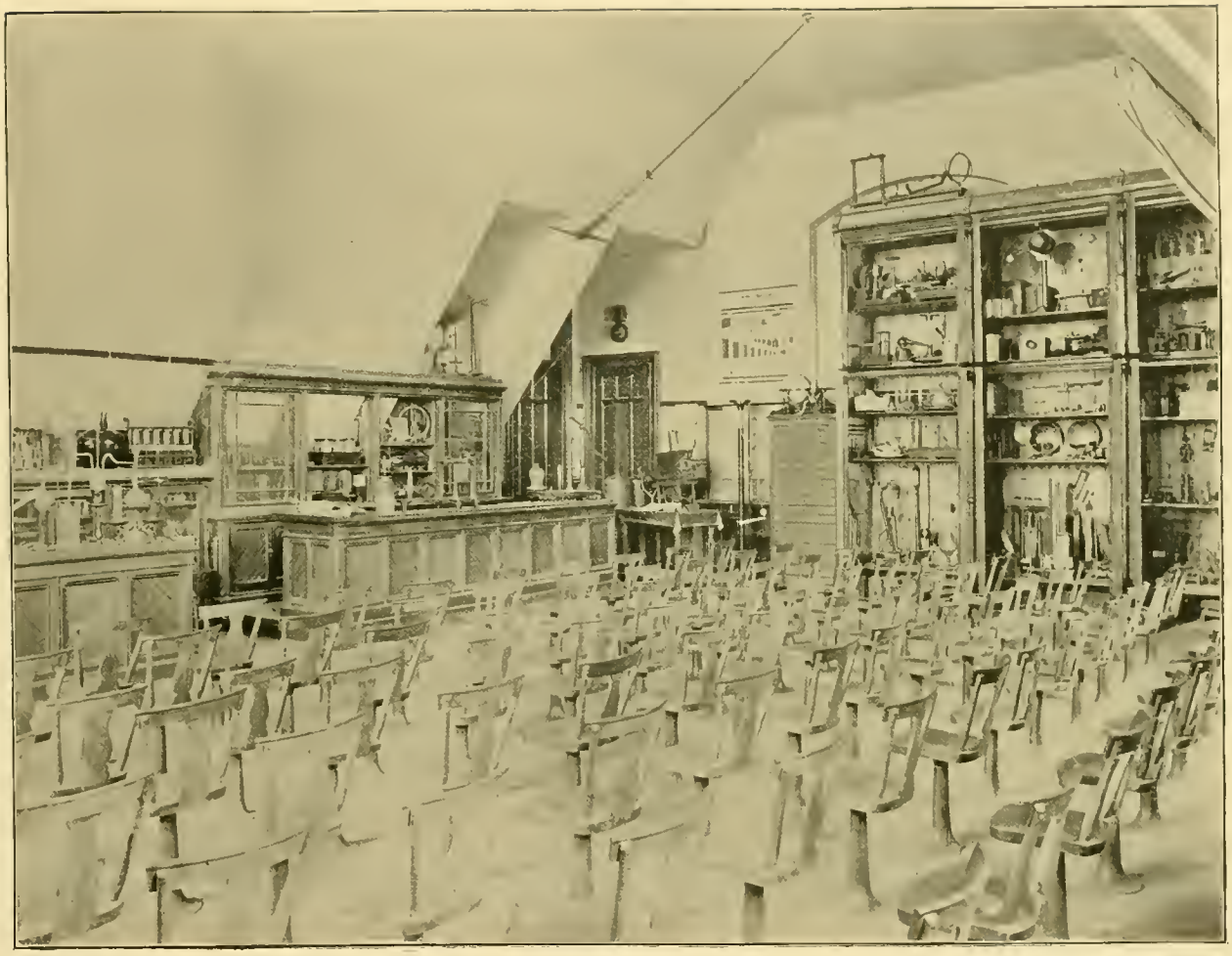

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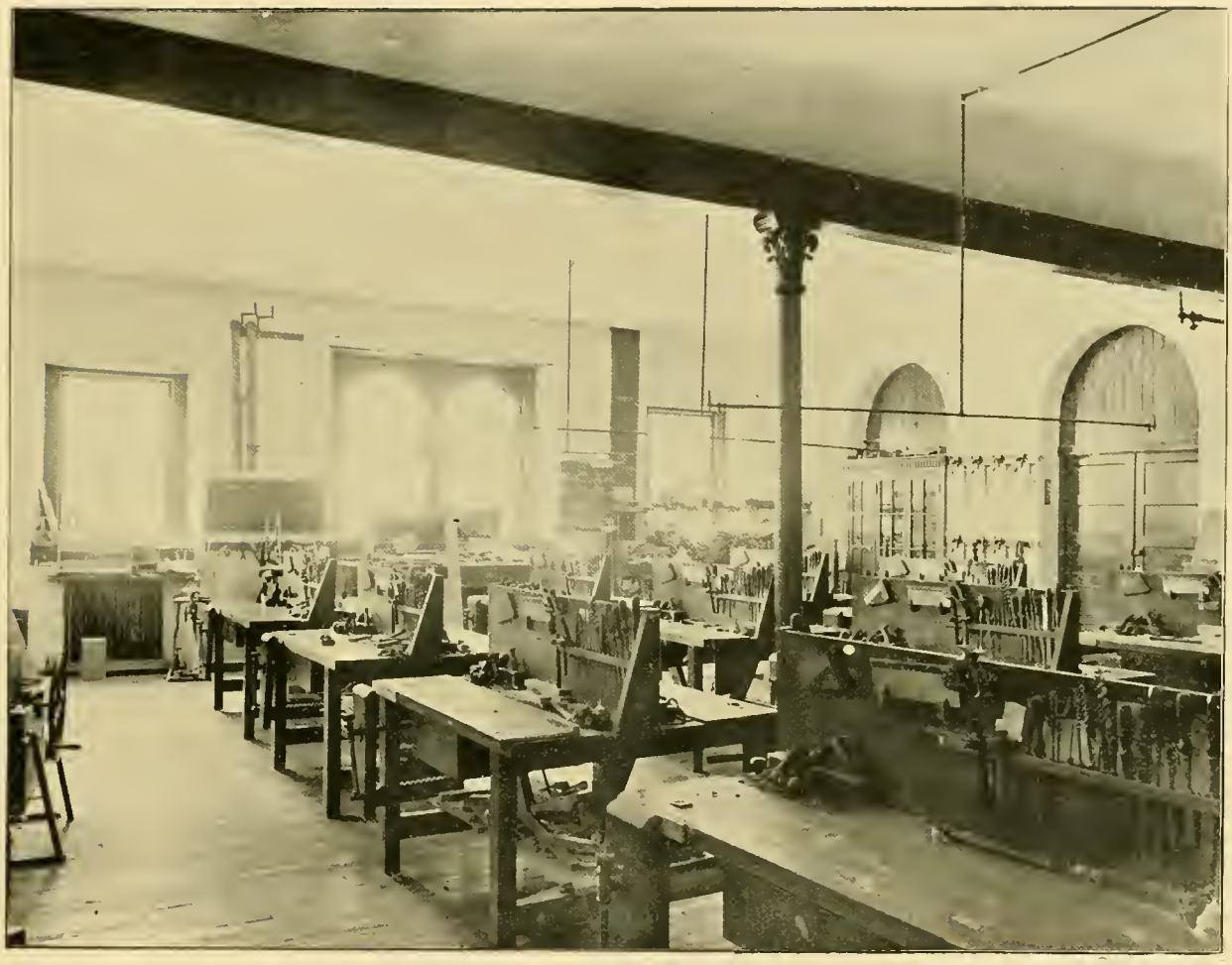

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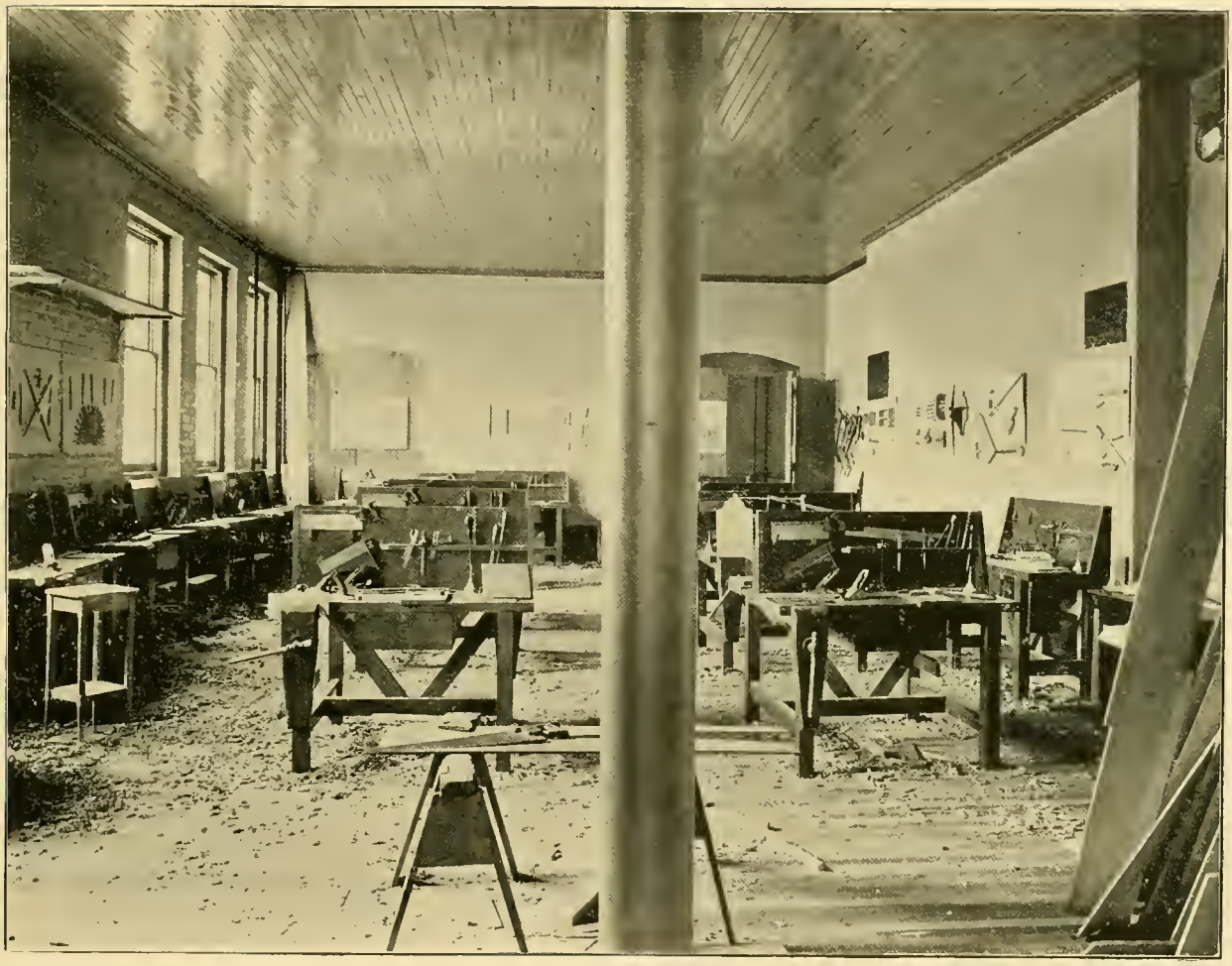

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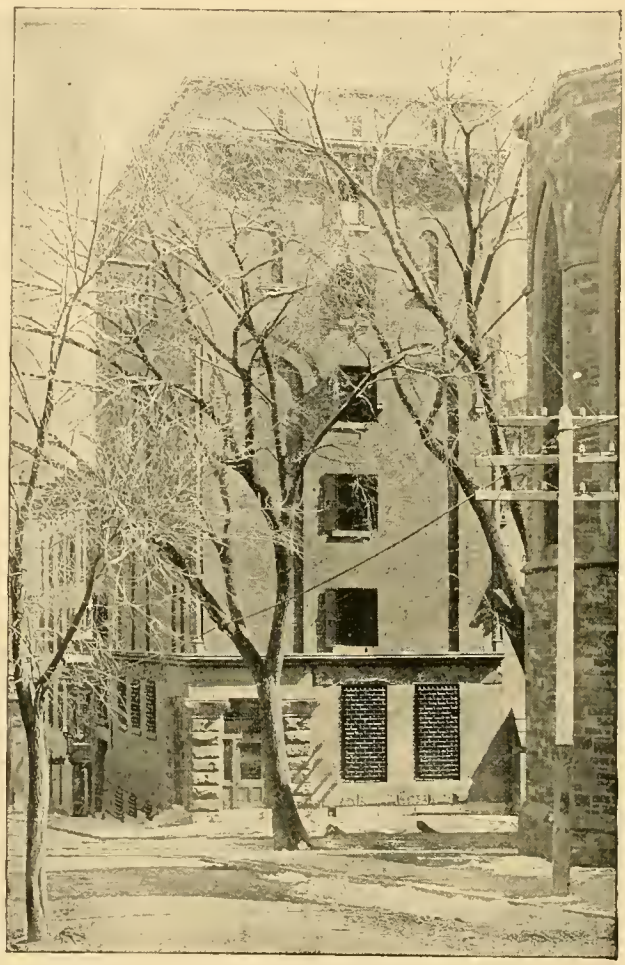

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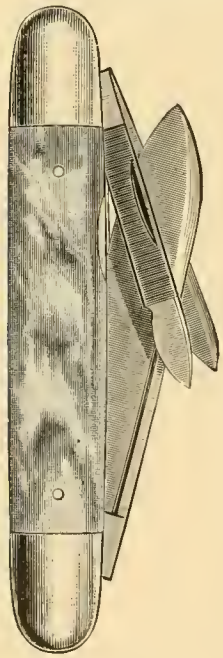

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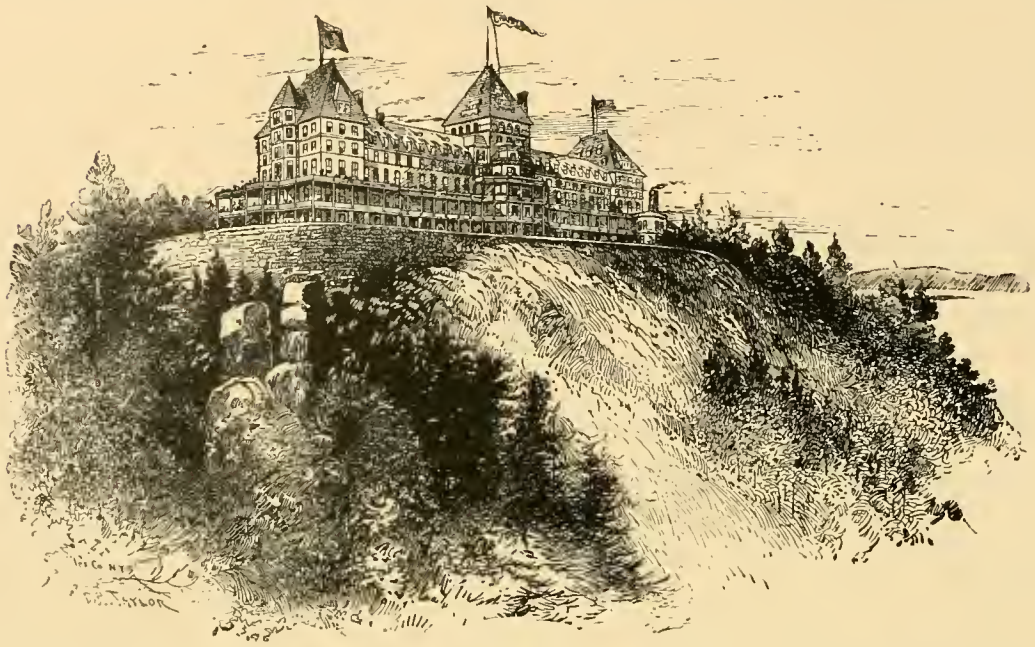

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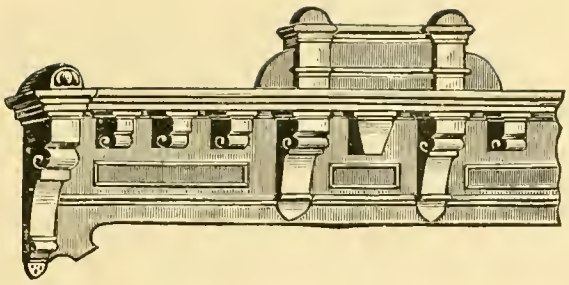

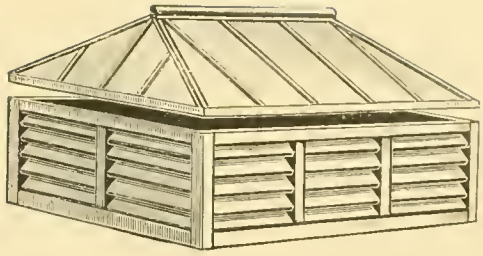

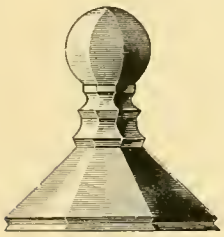

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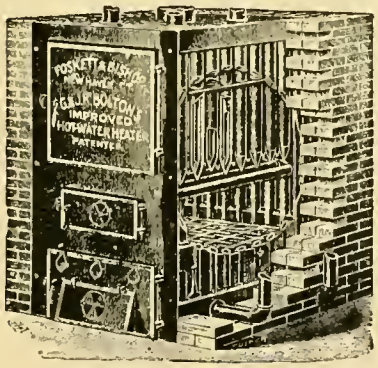

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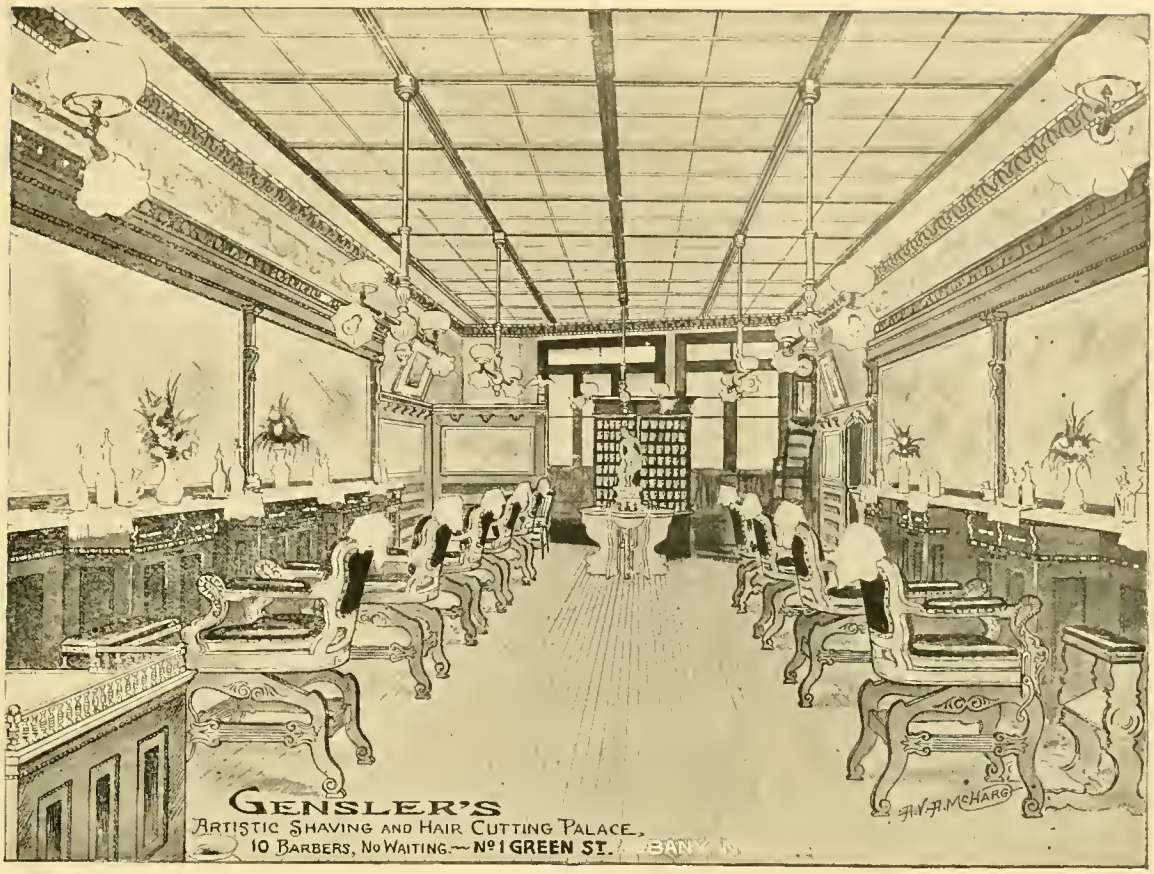

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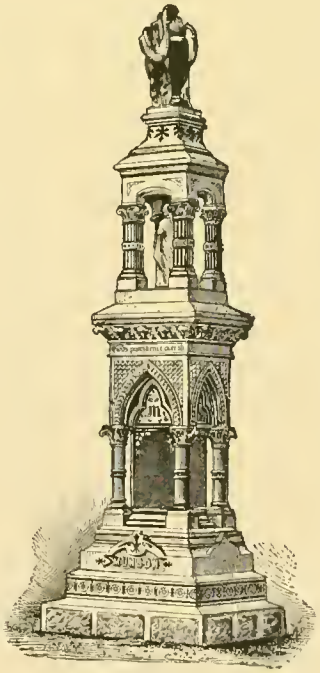

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It would be as improper as it is incompatable with the nature of this publication to make unfavorable comments upon our municipal school system or its present management. Be it far from our intention to manifest such disloyalty and ingratitude. If there is one thing of which Albany may be justly proud, more than of others, it is its educational advantages. The curriculum of our public schools embraces all studies necessary for the laying of a solid foundation upon which to build a higher or collegiate education. There is, however, one thing that cannot be taught in school, neither in college, and yet is quite important to the development of self-reliance, namely: the science of Practical Economy, which includes a practical knowledge of the value of the circulating medium and its proper and economical expenditure. This is easily acquired and is important to pupils and teachers. Let them walk in the avenues of trade, where people deal in realities instead of theories, and there learn by observation and inquiry, the difference between the worthy and the worthless. As all things are better or worse, only by comparison, it naturally follows that the most intelligent judgment is founded on a knowledge of what is best. There is an institution in this city at which such a standard of comparison is always obtainable. Founded more than a quarter of a century ago, and though established as a private enterprise, it is incidentally a place where lessons of the kind indicated above, may be learned by old and young. The great department store of John G. Myers is open to the public from eight A. M. to six P. M. daily, and on Saturday evenings, and there can be completed the education so well begun and so admirably maintained in the public schools of Albany.

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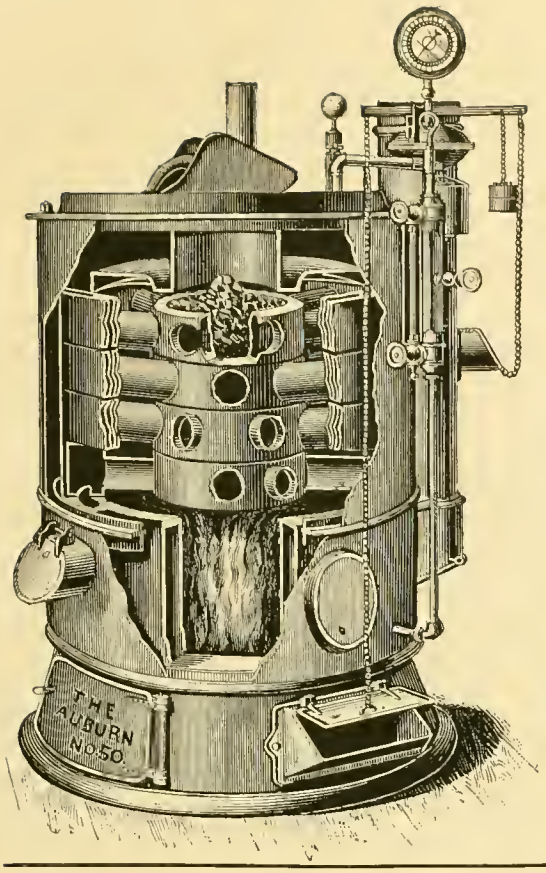

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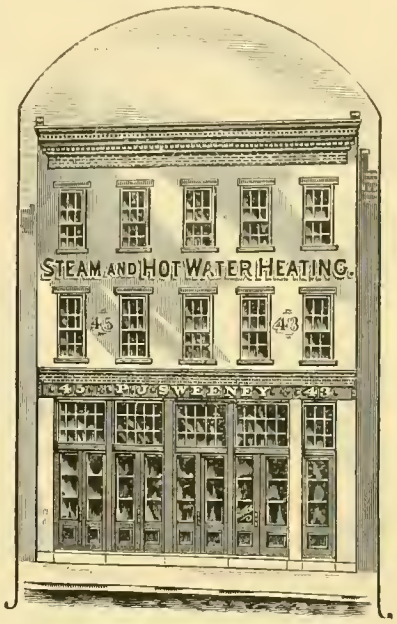

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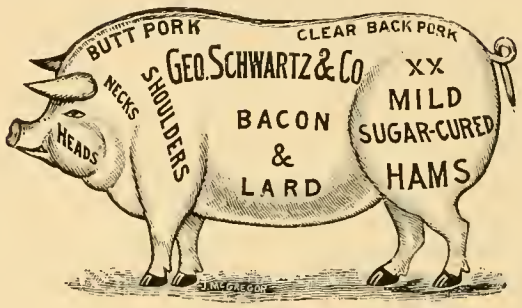

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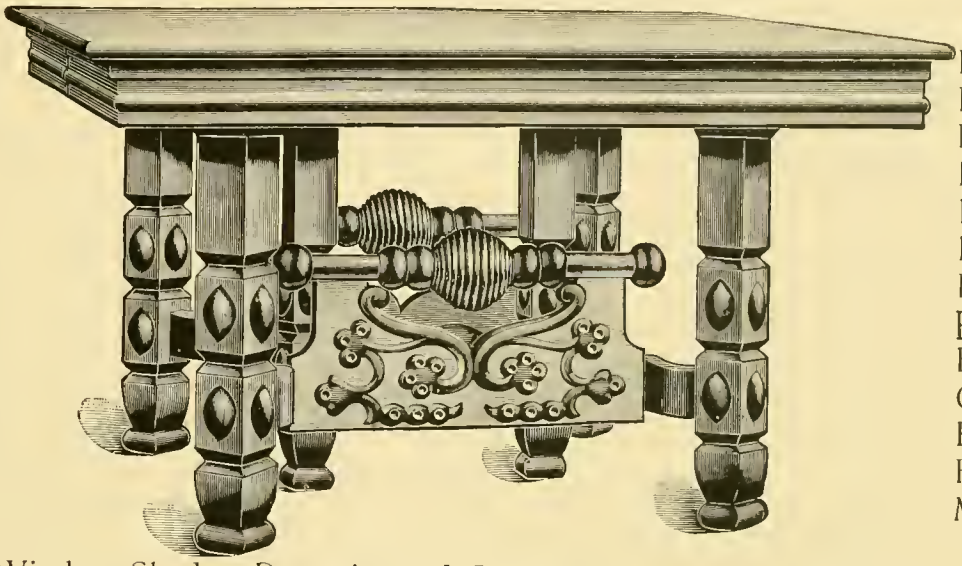

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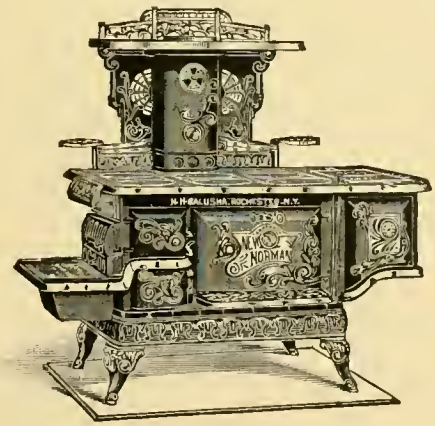

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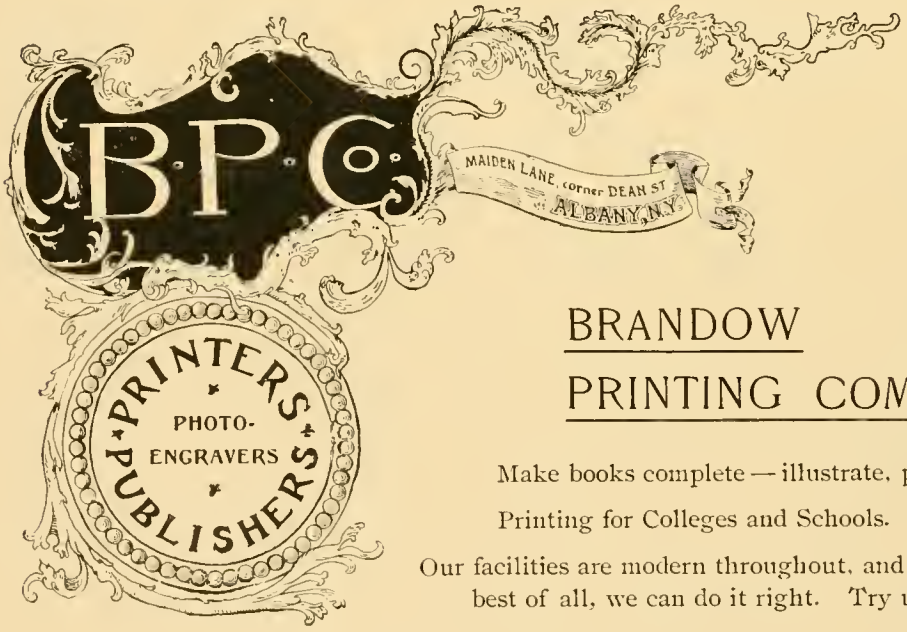

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